

COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC/PUBLIC SAFETY

November 7, 2001

6:00 PM

Chairman Sysyn called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Sysyn, Vaillancourt, Hirschmann (late) and Lopez

Absent: Alderman Pariseau

Messrs: T. Lolicata, Sgt. Lussier

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 3 of the agenda:

Communication from Alderman Vaillancourt regarding a petition from the residents of the Pepperidge/Sherwood/Westwood Drive area requesting additional speed bumps in the area.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated I did submit this request back in August or early September. I have spent a great deal of time up in this area. This is the area up between Goffs Falls Road and Brown Avenue where people tend to go through to cut through to go to the Post Office or more and more to go to the Olive Garden Restaurant and other shopping centers...I believe there is a new Wal-Mart up there and various other centers so some people on mostly Sherwood and Pepperidge asked for additional speed bumps. You may remember that this is the area where speed bumps were put in I think three years ago after a great deal of study and a great many public meetings and you also may recall that we had requests for speed bumps throughout the City in the last couple of years and I have basically been opposed to this because it would set a terrible trend. However, after due and careful consideration and after reviewing the entire area, I have personally come to the conclusion that Pepperidge Drive is not an appropriate area for any speed bumps because this is an area where there are stop signs very close together and there are driveways there as well so I don't see how we could put any speed bumps on Pepperidge. If you recall, Pepperidge is the little short street and Westwood is the street that circles around through if you take your first left coming up the hill. Your second left would be Sherwood and your third left would be Donahue. Apparently there are two speed bumps on Westwood, two on Donahue and one on Sherwood. My recommendation, Madame Chairman, is that

we add one more speed bump on Sherwood and none on Pepperidge. That is my recommendation.

Alderman Lopez stated I know that Alderman Wihby has many times requested speed bumps in neighborhoods and I have had requests for around the VA Hospital. I think the general opinion was that if we started it in one area we would have to continue in others. I know this area already has speed bumps, but everyone is going to want them. I recollect and I think, Tom, you told me this that there was supposed to be a committee appointed to look at the whole City and I believe that there are areas in the City that really need them, but I don't know what area it is and if you give them to one area then the other Aldermen are going to want them in their particular area. I don't know what the conclusion would be.

Alderman Vaillancourt replied I agree with you completely and I have told everyone from the get go that I am not in favor of adding new speed bumps on Brent Street or any other area. In fact, I have taken a considerable amount of heat for not wanting to do this. As far as I am concerned, however, this area was already done three years ago and the people in that area think that it was done improperly and that if there are two speed bumps...actually there are three on Westwood. One after it makes the curve and two in that particular section of Westwood and two in that particular section of Donahue and only one on Sherwood. Actually the request that I have had since I have been going up there is to put another speed bump on Westwood and another speed bump on Donahue but my compromise solution is simply to add one more to Sherwood. Apparently, people are coming up and speeding up at the top of the hill and either not stopping at the stop sign or taking a left onto Sherwood, thus avoiding Westwood because they realize that if they go that way there are two speed bumps. So, I am not suggesting that we put speed bumps in any new area nor am I suggesting that we maximize the speed bumps in this area, but I think it would be only fair to add one additional speed bump to Sherwood in the vicinity of 130 or 140.

Mr. Lolicata stated we have been talking about these for a long time. First of all, I don't put in the speed humps, Frank Thomas of the Highway Department does. They have a palate for that. They came up with a smoother type of hump because of liability, which is still there. I don't think that Frank, after what we have gone through at Pepperidge and all of these other wishful thinkers who want them in other areas...he is going to have to maintain these things once they are put in. My opinion is this, it is coming to a point now where there are certain streets for cut-offs but they are public streets. People who live there will tell you that themselves. Now I hate saying this but I can't do anything except signage. I can only warn you people about liability. That is what I am here for, to say no because of liability. Frank is the one who puts the speed humps in though.

Alderman Lopez asked could you elaborate on liability.

Mr. Lolicata answered somebody could hit that bump, it could be some young kid speeding and whether he is drunk, sober or otherwise he could go flying in the air and hit some child, hit some car or hit some house and you are responsible because you put something in that road. That is what I am talking about with tort liability. Believe it or not, that is a fact of life. What I am trying to say is even if you went along with this and you voted, it is idea of getting these things in, which Highway has to do, and maintaining them. You have to maintain these things that you put up.

Alderman Lopez asked so if somebody puts them on a private road the same thing applies to them and if somebody gets hurt they are liable.

Mr. Lolicata answered yes.

Alderman Lopez stated I tend to believe that the way traffic is in the City some areas need to be looked at because everybody is cutting through everybody's neighborhood and that is the whole issue.

Mr. Lolicata responded I would look at another way, i.e. a Do Not Enter or a one-way at the other end of the street or a cul-de-sac. Anything besides putting something in that street.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated as you know, Madame Chairman, this area had much discussion. They had this other idea that went up there called the serpentine where people could only go a certain amount and then they had to take a right turn and then another turn and it was like going through a maze. It went up when Alderman Domaingue was in the ward I think three years ago. After many, many meetings in that area the people in that area apparently through a tremendous amount of pressure decided that they wanted these speed bumps and I don't agree that it is universally accepted. As I said, I don't support new areas of speed bumps but you would acknowledge that there are already two on Donahue and three on Westwood and one on Sherwood. Now I don't know how it ever came to be that there was only one on Sherwood, but I believe that if you are going to keep the other three on Donahue...I am sorry two on Donahue and three on Westwood then there ought to be a second one on Sherwood in that particular area so that the people there are not more inconvenienced. As I said, I do not go along with the request that any be put on Pepperidge. I don't think from an engineering point of view that is a good idea, but simply to make it equitable for that entire area the people there are asking that the job be finished and I think some kind of representation was made back at the time that this was only the start and that it was a work in progress. I have gone up there and I don't see any problems...I

mean you have liability with the six that you already have now and to put one more on Sherwood I don't think would increase your liability tremendously or the amount of effort needed to maintain it. It is simply that people can get up a big head of steam coming down Sherwood before they hit that one bump and they are doing that, avoiding Westwood and avoiding Donahue so I think the people of Sherwood Drive have a legitimate request to put an additional one on Sherwood.

Alderman Lopez stated I would like to table this to have the Traffic Department, Risk, Solicitor's Office and Police Department come up with a plan and educate us on the insurance and liability issues. If it is so bad as Tom is saying on liability then maybe we have speed bumps where we shouldn't have speed bumps. I know for a fact that Alderman Wihby has mentioned it and I have had calls from Ward 2 up around the VA Hospital. They want speed bumps. Maybe we need a standard policy to end all of this business of speed bumps or speed humps or whatever they are called.

Mr. Lolicata replied you do have a policy right now. That is the man in uniform traffic control devices and that is what this country goes by. Right now your own people are going through stop signs. The people living there are actually going through their own stop signs.

Alderman Lopez responded I realize that. I am just asking for the right information because I want to get the right people involved in this so that we can make a policy decision.

Chairman Sysyn stated it seems to me that those departments were against the speed bumps.

Mr. Lolicata replied there were three or four of us involved at the time. There was Frank Thomas, myself and Planning and others and they utilized what was up there now as a process of just starting to see how it was working for a year or two.

Alderman Vaillancourt asked and how has it worked out.

Mr. Lolicata answered I would like to know myself what the people up there think about them. Has the traffic gone down?

Alderman Vaillancourt replied I can tell you from my evidence of talking to people up there that it is not universally accepted but I would say that a majority of people think it has served as a deterrent to people speeding in the neighborhood. Obviously if you have three speed bumps on Westwood it has served slowing down traffic for those. Now some people on Westwood want five or six of them and I told them that I would absolutely never ask for that and I would never pander

to do that but it does seem fair that an additional one on the same stretch from Westwood going down should be put on the stretch from Sherwood going down where it rounds the corner to Westwood so that people won't be funneled down there. Again, I don't ask this to try to get these in any other area in the City but only that one extra one on Sherwood. Again, I am not going to go along with the request...I don't think the people on Pepperidge if they realized the engineering studies would think that it makes sense on Pepperidge. You can't have them between those two stop signs on Pepperidge, which are so close together just coming up the hill there. I do think you could do one on Sherwood. Either that or maybe you want to take them all out.

Mr. Lolicata stated that is not a bad idea.

Alderman Lopez moved to table the item. Alderman Vaillancourt duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Vaillancourt asked is the motion to table it for this particular area or for every area.

Alderman Lopez stated I am tabling it to get the correct information in this area and Tom said that he would like to do a follow-up in that area and maybe it is time we do a follow-up and see what the situation is up there.

Alderman Vaillancourt replied maybe we could find out why that one on Sherwood never went in when the other ones were put up.

Chairman Sysyn called for a vote on the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 4 of the agenda:

Communication from Fawn Gobis requesting the removal of "No Parking" signs located across the street from 320 Hazelton Avenue.

On motion of Alderman Vaillancourt, duly seconded by Alderman Lopez, it was voted to receive and file this item.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 5 of the agenda:

Communication from Robin Descoteaux, Chair of the Christmas Parade, requesting no parking on Elm Street between the hours of 9 AM and 6 PM from Webster to Granite Street on Sunday, November 25, 2001 with a rain/snow date of Monday, November 26 for the 2001 Christmas on Elm Street Parade.

On motion of Alderman Lopez, duly seconded by Alderman Vaillancourt, it was voted to approve the request.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 6 of the agenda:

Petition from residents of Oakland Avenue requesting additional measures to control vehicular speed on Oakland Avenue, i.e. four way stop signs at various intersections.

Alderman Lopez asked Tom have you looked at this.

Mr. Lolicata answered I have been working on Oakland Avenue for quite a while. Right now it is the same deal as Alderman Vaillancourt is talking about, another cut-off. I guess they are trying to beat the lights and going down Oakland to beat Massabesic and Porter and all of those lights down there. It is at a certain time of day. Even during the day we were getting complaints from Real Pinard and we went up and put signs there. Basically, you can't put up stop signs to slow down traffic. There have to be warrants for these things. I find that people are finding places like this to beat the lights. They are going to find a way to do something and we are back to the same old adage again. Here we go with a public street and the traffic has picked up. No offense, but when it comes down to speeding I think it is enforcement time. I can't do any more.

Alderman Lopez stated I don't think there is any problem with putting up a stop sign to slow down traffic.

Mr. Lolicata replied I think we should get somebody up there at different times to start giving out tickets. You have to start slowing people down.

Alderman Lopez asked have the Police been up there.

Sgt. Lussier stated we have been up on a few occasions on some speed enforcement. We haven't really witnessed any spectacular speed. I can put a traffic counter out there and try to get some counts. We can put it out for several days and get an actual number and average speed and get back to you on that.

Chairman Sysyn asked isn't there a law or whatever that we don't do four-way stop signs. Didn't we agree not to do that except near schools?

Mr. Lolicata answered definitely. You have to have warrants for four-way stop signs and there is no warrant there. As a matter of fact, they recommend against that. I have seen the police put out these speed counters where the average speed ended up being 32 MPH or 35 MPH. When you are going 30 MPH down a street it looks like 40 MPH or 50 MPH to some of the people. I think one way of doing it is to have the Police put that counter out there and come up with a total. That quells the complaints. It tells the people that they are only going 30 MPH.

Chairman Sysyn stated someone approached me yesterday at the polls who lives on Maryland Avenue. He said that the police only go there for about 15 minutes. How long are they supposed to be there?

Sgt. Lussier replied I have gone to locations where we get complaints and when you sit there for a half an hour and nothing is happening you say to yourself well maybe I should go somewhere else. I don't know how long officers have been there but I would guess that they have spent what they felt was a sufficient amount of time and not having seen the activity chose to go elsewhere.

Alderman Lopez moved to table this item pending report from the Police and Traffic Departments. Alderman Vaillancourt duly seconded the motion.

Chairman Sysyn called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Sgt. Lussier stated I will put a counter out there and get you a report.

Chairman Sysyn advised that the Traffic Department has submitted an agenda, which needs to be addressed as follows:

ONE WAY STREET:

Hampshire Lane from Old Granite St. to W. Auburn St., southbound
Alderman Levasseur – Police Dept.

McLaughlin School Driveway easterly around school then southerly and then westerly to driveway terminus
Tim Clougherty – School Dept.

RESCIND ONE WAY STREET:

Hampshire Lane, from West Auburn St. to Old Granite St., northbound
Alderman Levasseur – Police Dept.

NO PARKING ANYTIME:

On Oakhill Ave., east side, from Tower Hill Rd. to a point 275 feet northerly
Police Dept.

On Elm St., west side, from Old Granite St. to a point 75 feet south
Alderman Levasseur

On Spruce St., south side, from Pine St. to a point 105 feet west
Alderman Levasseur

On W. Auburn St., south side, from Elm St. to a point 124 feet west
Alderman Levasseur

On Elm St., west side, from Valley St. to a point 402 feet north
Alderman Levasseur

On Chestnut St., east side, from Lake Ave. to a point 47 feet south
Alderman Levasseur – Kalivas Park Rehab

On Elm St., east side, from Auburn St. to a point 175 feet south
Alderman Levasseur

On Spruce St., north side, from Chestnut St. to Pine St.
Alderman Levasseur – Kalivas Park Rehab

NO PARKING ANYTIME:

On W. Appleton St., south side, from Elm St. to dead end
Alderman Levasseur

On Beech St., west side, from Auburn Northback to a point 50 feet northerly
Alderman Sysyn

PARKING 2 HOURS (8AM-6PM):

On W. Appleton St., north side, from Elm St. to dead end
Alderman Levasseur

RESCIND PARKING 2 HOURS:

On Spruce St., south side, from Chestnut St. to a point 116 feet west of Pine St.
Alderman Levasseur

RESCIND NO PARKING ANYTIME:

On Oakhill Ave., east side, from Tower Hill Rd. to the dead end
Police Dept.

On Spruce St., south side, from Pine St. to a point 116 feet west
Alderman Levasseur

On Elm St., west side, from Valley St. to a point 565 feet north
Alderman Levasseur

On W. Auburn St., south side, from Elm St. to Canal St.
Alderman Levasseur

On Cedar St., south side, from Canton St. to Kenney St.
Traffic Department (Ed Osborne – ok)

On Spruce St., north side, from Chestnut St. to Pine St.
Alderman Levasseur – Kalivas Park Rehab

NO TRUCKS ALLOWED:

On Old Smyth Rd. from Smyth Rd. to Holmes Dr.
Alderman Wihby

NO TRUCKS \$300 FINE:

On Lone Pine Dr. from Bodwell Rd. to Glen Forest Dr.
Alderman Vaillancourt

On Glen Forest Dr. from Lone Pine Dr. to S. Mammoth Rd.
Alderman Vaillancourt

On Day St. from Daniel Webster Highway to Fairfield St.
Alderman Wihby

RESCIND STOP SIGN:

On Crowley St. at Calef Rd. NEC
Alderman Pariseau

STOP SIGNS:

On Brickett Road at Cohas Ave., NEC. SWC
Alderman Pinard

On Waverly St. at Elton Ave., SWC
Alderman Pinard

On Lowell St. at Highland St. NEC, SWC (4-way – school zone)
Alderman Sysyn

On Highland St. at East High St., NWC, SEC (4-way – school zone)
Alderman Sysyn

On Belmont St. at Lake Ave. SWC backup NEC backup
Traffic Department

RESCIND STOP SIGN:

On Silver St. at Belmont St., SWC
Alderman Shea

NO PARKING HANDICAP:

On Merrill St., south side, from a point 155 feet east of Jewett St. to a point
20 feet east
Alderman Shea

NO PARKING LOADING ZONE:

On Third St., east side, from a point 145 feet south of School St. to a point
25 feet southerly
Alderman Thibault

RESCIND NO PARKING LOADING ZONE:

On W. Auburn St., north side, from a point 77 feet east of Canal St. to a
point 99 feet east of Canal St.
Alderman Levasseur

RESCIND PARKING 1 HOUR:

On Elm St., west side, from Depot St. to Auburn St.
Alderman Levasseur

On Chestnut St., east side, from a point 50 feet south of Spruce St. to Cedar
St.
Alderman Levasseur

On W. Auburn St., north side, from Elm St. to a point 100 feet west
Alderman Levasseur

On Elm St., east side, from Valley St. to Auburn St.
Alderman Levasseur

On Depot St., north side, from Elm St. to Hampshire Lane
Alderman Levasseur

On Chestnut St., east side, from a point 50 feet south of Spruce St. to Cedar
St.
Alderman Levasseur

**10 HOUR PARKING METERS (5PM-8PM MON-FRI, 8AM-8PM
SAT):**

(dual use spaces – existing loading zone 8am-5pm Monday-Friday)
On Elm St., west side, from a point 20 feet north of Depot St. to a point 50
feet
(2 spaces)
Alderman Levasseur

10 HOUR PARKING METERS (8AM-8PM MON-SAT):

On Elm St., west side, from Depot St. to Auburn St. (3 spaces)
Alderman Levasseur

On Chestnut St., east side, from a point 50 feet south of Spruce St. to Cedar
St.
(7 spaces)
Alderman Levasseur

On Chestnut St., east side, from a point 47 feet south of Lake Ave. to
Spruce St. (6 spaces)
Alderman Levasseur – Kalivas Park Rehab

On Elm St., west side, from a point 75 feet south of Old Granite to a point
66 feet south (3 spaces)
Alderman Levasseur

On Spruce St., south side, from Chestnut St. to a point 105 feet west of Pine
St.
(8 spaces)
Alderman Levasseur

On Chestnut St., east side, from a point 50 feet south of Spruce St. to Cedar St.

(7 spaces)

Alderman Levasseur

NO PARKING BUS STOP (24 HOURS):

On Elm St., west side, from Granite St. to Old Granite St.

Alderman Levasseur

Alderman Vaillancourt stated I talked to Tom Lolicata about Pond Drive and rescinding the No Parking on one side. Do we have to go through the Traffic Agenda for that?

Mr. Lolicata replied yes but as I explained to you I want the top of the hill No Parking. I need to take measurements. I am not going to go any further than what the original ordinance was so I have to rescind all of that. I went down and looked at it again and both sides of the hill will be done.

On motion of Alderman Lopez, duly seconded by Alderman Vaillancourt, it was voted to accept the traffic agenda.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 8 of the agenda:

Request from the Traffic Department to implement fees at the Victory, Canal and Center of New Hampshire Garages as follows:

Late payment	\$ 5.00 fee
Lost ticket	\$10.00 fee
Lost card	\$20.00 fee

On motion of Alderman Lopez, duly seconded by Alderman Vaillancourt, it was voted to approve the new fees.

TABLED ITEM

Designating the Middle Street Parking Lot for government parking only from 5 PM on.

On motion of Alderman Lopez, duly seconded by Alderman Hirschmann, it was voted to remove this item from the table.

Alderman Lopez stated I wanted to take this off the table because we had some discussion about this back in October and it was supposed to be brought up as to what we were going to do there. The civic center is going to open soon. Are we going to put some signs up there? You were supposed to work it out with Leo, Tom. Has anybody come up with anything?

Mr. Lolicata replied at the time, Leo Bernier was going to come in with a plan.

Alderman Lopez stated but the civic center is going to be opening soon.

Mr. Lolicata responded half of the parking lot has meters and half doesn't to begin with. If it is going to be used at night for government purposes, I guess we could up signage for that per ordinance. Once again, Leo was supposed to do something with this and I will sit down with him and come up with something but the only thing you can do is on the nights when there are civic center events and you have meetings going on, maybe something should be done as far as somebody going over there and allowing it for governmental parking. I don't know. I haven't sat down with Leo. I have no idea. It has to be manned by somebody if you are going to do something like that or have signage saying that nobody can park there except for certain purposes.

Alderman Lopez replied I don't have any problem with that. I am just saying that it was supposed to be worked out with the City Clerk as to the nights and how you were going to administer putting up signs and who was going to go out there and man it, etc. Otherwise, come the opening of the civic center we won't have anything in place. Somebody has to do something.

Mr. Lolicata stated let me sit with Leo and come up with something. It was supposed to be Carol at the last meeting and prior to that it was supposed to be the City Clerk. Let me sit down with them and come up with something for you.

Alderman Vaillancourt moved to place the item back on the table.

Alderman Hirschmann stated Tom with all of the thought that you put into the meters all around the neighborhoods, why would you leave this one lot alone so that everyone could park there for free. Why didn't you put some thought into this sooner? I understand that you are saying Leo had something to do with it, but it seems to me that you are the parking Director and you should be on top of this. We can all park over there for free.

Mr. Lolicata replied at night you can park there. I understand that. At the time we had McQuades and we had parking meters. I would have to put parking meters back in there and you would have to rescind McQuades. I agree that something should have been done. You know what I am saying. It comes up every year in January. That should be an all metered parking lot or a permit parking lot or something. I agree with you.

Alderman Hirschmann moved to have the Traffic Director and City Clerk resolve this issue before November 17. Alderman Lopez duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Vaillancourt asked doesn't it have to come back here first. Are we going to have a special meeting?

Alderman Hirschmann stated we could do it by phone poll.

Alderman Lopez stated what we are saying is we are designating the Middle Street Lot for government parking only. The only thing I think Alderman Hirschmann is giving authority to the Traffic Director and Leo Bernier to come up with a system so that when there are meetings something knows something.

Alderman Vaillancourt replied I think Alderman Levasseur's argument, and I agreed with it, was that I don't believe that entire lot is necessary for government parking only. I think we are losing revenue if we do it that way.

Mr. Lolicata responded that is a good point because you have a third element. If you have your meters in there 8 AM until 8 PM for example, the third element are the people who are using it for The Strange Brew and other places. It would be the downtown people more than the civic center people utilizing the lot. My recommendation right now would be to put the meters back in that parking lot so they can be utilized for revenue at night and during the day we can keep McQuades the way they are.

Alderman Lopez stated but we have to concern ourselves with the public coming here for the meetings at night. I really agree with Alderman Hirschmann. It has to be worked out with the City Clerk so that the public doesn't have to pay.

Mr. Lolicata replied we could have it strictly as parking for government or City use only from a certain hour on. Those are the options.

Alderman Hirschmann stated it could be from 5 PM until midnight for government use only or something.

Alderman Lopez stated you could take that into consideration when talking with the City Clerk. You may only need half of the parking lot. Maybe the Police Department could put bags on the meters. I don't know what the solution is. I could come up with maybe 10 solutions.

Mr. Lolicata replied right but it would have to be one or the other. I think that is the point that Alderman Hirschmann is making.

Chairman Sysyn called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Lopez stated I have an item and I didn't have a chance to talk to Alderman Hirschmann about it. He might agree with me or he might not. I spoke to Tom Lolicata about the crosswalk from the parking lot where the tennis courts are at West High School. We have received many complaints because there is no walkway and they have to wait and wait and I was wondering if we could get a crosswalk from the parking lot to West High so they don't have to walk all the way down to the red light and try to get across the street.

Mr. Lolicata replied I went there during the week. You also have a crosswalk...it used to be about 50' or 60' away from where they come out. When I went down to that parking lot and saw where they come out, I was thinking that it where you want it, right in the mid block. Is that right?

Alderman Lopez answered it is not where I want it but where the teachers and students want it.

Mr. Lolicata stated well if they go northerly for another 50' or 60' they would be at an intersection where we could put in a proper crosswalk for them rather than crossing them right in the middle of a street. I would rather utilize the street 50' away and I don't mean the lights. I mean to the north there is a street, Skylar or whatever the name of it is and there used to be a crosswalk there. I can put it back in. I do not like putting a crosswalk in the middle of a mid block. If they could just walk 50' northerly and go across the regular intersection.

Alderman Hirschmann stated this is a special...this isn't a regular situation. This is the side of the high school. There are over 2,000 kids who go there plus teachers and they won't walk from here to the elevator. It is a long way. The school is directly ahead. If you walk 50' that way and 50' this way when you can just go straight ahead...everyone is jay walking now and you saw the traffic over there.

Alderman Lopez moved to put a crosswalk from the entrance of the parking lot at West High School directly to the school. Alderman Hirschmann duly seconded the motion.

Mr. Lolicata stated you would have to have some things done first.

Alderman Lopez stated well whatever you have to do.

Mr. Lolicata stated by Federal law I have to have a curb cut for both sides and you are going against safety measures right now.

Alderman Hirschmann replied it is an unsafe situation that you have there now.

Mr. Lolicata stated the reason for an intersection is to have people crossing in the proper position and proper way.

Alderman Lopez replied I don't want to go against safety but they have about 170 people crossing the street and to me that is a safety factor for those teachers and kids. Whatever has to be done to meet the rules, do it.

Alderman Vaillancourt asked what was the motion.

Chairman Sysyn answered to put a crosswalk from the parking lot to the school.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated I am not going to vote on anything against the Traffic Director's recommendation.

Alderman Lopez asked, Tom, are you saying that it is an official safety hazard and you can't put a crosswalk across there.

Mr. Lolicata answered I am against it. That doesn't mean I won't do it. I am informing you by the manual that I would not recommend putting a crosswalk right there. If you go another 50' you can put one at an intersection and take care of the problem properly. It is your call. It is a mid block crosswalk and those are one of the worse things you can put out there. People when they are driving a car are looking for an intersection and something popping up in mid block...that is why they got rid of them over here on Merrimack Street and other streets. They are looking somewhere where it is not natural. That is why the manual says it should be at intersections. I would like to double-check on that.

Alderman Hirschmann stated that park facility has a new curb cut entrance. Right at that curb cut entrance, which is brand-new, there should be a crosswalk right there and people see cars coming in and out of that new curb cut entrance. It is common sense to have it right there going right to the school. It is not a mid block crosswalk. It is not a four-way, it is a key intersection that you have now and rightfully so there should be a crosswalk right there. If you really looked at it again, Tom, it should be right at the new entrance. They are jaywalking there now, hundreds of people a day.

Mr. Lolicata replied it can be done. I am not saying it can't.

Chairman Sysyn called for a vote on the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Vaillancourt being duly recorded in opposition.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated I have a picture that I would like to distribute to members of the Committee. This is of a Chevrolet custom deluxe apparently temporary plate vehicle that seems to be constantly parked up where it shouldn't be on Circle Road. The license plate says REDNCK. The temporary plate says it is good until 1/31/02. It has been there for three or four months. The people up there have called the police several times and I have called the police several times and it continues to park there where it shouldn't be parked. Isn't there anything we can do to stop this person from parking this mess in this residential neighborhood?

Sgt. Lussier asked did you get the message I left you on that.

Alderman Vaillancourt answered yes.

Sgt. Lussier stated that vehicle is properly registered. I drove by that personally. They had vanity plates that they just got and they are waiting for the printed plate to come through. Where I saw that vehicle parked, there is nothing I can do. If it is there for an extended period of time, I can address it but that vehicle is properly registered. I went up the night before last.

Alderman Vaillancourt asked how long is it allowed to park in that particular space; days and days at a time.

Sgt. Lussier answered if it stays in that one spot without moving, we can address that. We can put a red tag on it and have it moved or towed but the vehicle was properly registered.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated these people all have their own parking spaces up there and it is being parked in a space where it shouldn't be.

Alderman Hirschmann asked is it a City street.

Alderman Vaillancourt answered it is a condominium complex.

Sgt. Lussier stated it was parked on a City street when I saw. It was on Circle Road.

Alderman Vaillancourt replied right up against the road that is blocked off.

Sgt. Lussier responded yes. If they are operating that vehicle and they just happen to park there every night, there is nothing I can do about that. We will address it. It is registered.

There being no further business, on motion of Alderman Lopez, duly seconded by Alderman Vaillancourt, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee